

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 OUAGAD 01728 071318Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /068 W

-----071321Z 073913 /73

R 070812Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3908

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L OUAGADOUGOU 1728

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, UV

SUBJ: THE DIFFICULT ROAD BACK TO CIVILIAN RULE

REF: OUAGADOUGOU 1395

1. THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION, WHICH WAS ESTABLISHED APRIL 13 AND BEGAN WORK ABOUT A WEEK LATER, IS APPARENTLY ON SCHEDULE AND IS EXPECTED TO COMPLETE ITS REVIEW OF THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION IN ABOUT A WEEK. ALTHOUGH ALL MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION ARE JURISTS, THEY ALL HAVE TIES WITH SOME OF THE BANNED POLITICAL PARTIES AND HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN SUBJECTED TO STRONG PRESSURE FROM THESE PARTIES. IT IS NOW EXPECTED THAT THE NATIONAL REFERENCUM ON THE NEW CONSTITUTION WILL TAKE PLACE AROUND JUNE 15.

2. ONCE THE CONSTITUTION HAS BEEN APPROVED AND PROMULGATED, THE POLITICAL PARTIES WILL PRESUMABLY
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 OUAGAD 01728 071318Z

BECOME LEGAL ONCE MORE. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THERE WILL BE THREE PARTIES: THE UDV-RDA, THE MLN AND THE PRA. ALL OF THESE PARTIES HAVE BEEN EXTREMELY ACTIVE IN THE PAST FEW MONTHS AND SEEM TO BE COMPLETELY UNCONCERNED ABOUT THE BAN IMPOSED ON THEIR ACTIVITIES EARLY IN 1974.

3. LEGISLATIVE AND PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS ARE NOW EXPECTED TO TAKE PLACE IN NOVEMBER 1977. POLITICAL CAMPAIGNING HAS ALREADY BEGUN AND THERE IS CONSIDERABLE TRAVEL BY MINISTERS AND OTHER HIGH OFFICIALS BACK TO NATIVE VILLAGES AND TOWNS. IT IS NOT YET CLEAR WHAT PRESIDENT LAMIZANA WILL DO. MANY OBSERVERS BELIEVE THAT HE WILL SIMPLY RETIRE. OTHERS ARE OF THE OPINION THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO RUN FOR PRESIDENT IF HE COULD BE SURE TO BE UNOPPOSED. THIS SEEMS UNLIKELY, HOWEVER, SINCE AT LEAST TWO POLITICIANS HAVE ALREADY MADE IT CLEAR THAT THEY INTEND TO BE CANDIDATES FOR THE PRESIDENCY. ONE IS MOUSSA KARGOUGOU, PRESENTLY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHO WILL RUN AS AN INDEPENDENT BUT IS KNOWN TO HAVE CLOSE TIES WITH THE RDA. THE OTHER IS JOSEPH CONOMBO, FORMER MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WHO IS A MEMBER OF THE RDA. WAITING IN THE WINGS AND GERARD KONGO OUEDRAOGO, FORMER PRIME MINISTER, AND JOSEPH OUEDRAOGO, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. BOTH OF THESE POTENTIAL CANDIDATES ARE RDA. WITH REGARD TO EX-PRESIDENT MAURICE YAMEOGO (ALSO RDA) IT SEEMS LESS AND LESS LIKELY THAT PRESIDENT LAMIZANA WILL AGREE TO HIS POLITICAL REHABILITATION SO HE CAN BE A CANDIDATE IN THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS. AT ANY RATE, THE NOMINATION OF A SINGLE CANDIDATE BY THE RDA SHOULD PROVE TO BE AN INTERESTING AND LIVELY EXERCISE.

4. SO FAR, THE ARMY SEEMS TO BE RESIGNED TO THE RETURN OF A CIVILIAN GOVERNMENT AT THE END OF THE YEAR. SEVERAL HIGH RANKING OFFICERS HAVE INDICATED, HOWEVER, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 OUAGAD 01728 071318Z

THAT THEY WILL BE WATCHING "THOSE POLITICIANS" VERY CLOSELY AND "IF THEY MAKE A MESS OF THINGS AS THEY HAVE ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS IN THE PAST, THE ARMY WILL NOT HESITATE TO INTERVENE TO SET MATTERS STRAIGHT ONCE AGAIN."
GRAHAM

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: GOVERNMENT REFORM, CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, ELECTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977OUAGAD01728
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770161-0203
Format: TEL
From: OUAGADOUGOU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770582/aaaacsyg.tel
Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 859d0799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 OUAGADOUGOU 1395
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2608590
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE DIFFICULT ROAD BACK TO CIVILIAN RULE
TAGS: PINT, UV
To: STATE ABIDJAN
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/859d0799-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009